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KOREA INQUIRIES GET LIMELIGHT THIS WEEK

House Panel to Start Hearings on Alleged Effort to Manipulate American Foreign Policy

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WASHINGTON, March 11—The investigations into alleged Korean influence-buying here will break into the public eye next week after months of behind-the-scenes inquiries and interrogations.

A House subcommittee headed by Representative Donad M. Fraser, Democrat of Minnesota, is to begin hearings Wednesday in an effort to prove that the Korean Government conspired to manipulate American foreign policy and that the Nixon Administration knew about it but did little to prevent it.

On the same day, Hancho C. Kim, a naturalized American citizen who is alleged to have been a covert Korean agent is scheduled to go on trial, giving the Justice Department its first opportunity to make public evidence it has been gathering for more than two years.

A spokesman for Mr. Fraser's Subcommittee on International Organizations, which is charged with inquiring into Korean Government attempts to influence American policy, said its hearings would delve into the following areas:

¶The failing confidence of the South Korean Government in the reliability of the American security commitment that led Seoul to resort to "extraordinary" means to retain its alliance with the United States.

¶The decisions taken by President Park Chung Hee, Prime Minister Chung Il Kwon; the Director of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency, Lee Hu Rak, and other Korean officials to organize the covert lobby in Washington.

¶The intelligence reporting through which senior officials of the Nixon Administration were allegedly made aware of the Korean plan, and the evidence that little of any consequence was done about it.

Role of Tongsun Park

The committee spokesman said that intelligence reports would be released to show that Tongsun Park, the Korean businessman, was an agent of the K.C.I.A. from 1968. Mr. Park, in secret testimony before the House ethics committee over the last two weeks, is reported to have denied acting on behalf of the Korean Government.

Former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and former Attorney General John N. Mitchell have been invited to testify, the spokesman said. Mr. Kissinger is still engaged in discussions with the committee, he added, while Mr. Mitchell's appearance would require a furlough from the prison where he is serving a term for his role in the Watergate affair.

Other witnesses are to include Marshall Green, who was Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs at the time in question; Donald Ranard, the Korea desk officer in the State Department then, and William Porter, the American Ambassador in Seoul.

While those hearings are under way on Capitol Hill, the trial of Mr. Kim is to start in a Federal court six blocks away. He has been charged with conspiracy, bribery and other alleged felonies.

Mr. Kim, who was a businessman and a trustee of American University here, is alleged to have received \$600,000 through the Korean Embassy's diplomatic pouch. Korean former intelligence officers have said that the money was intended for lobbying expenses, including bribes to Congressmen.

Dealings With Park

That was allegedly in 1975 and 1976, after publicity about Mr. Park's socializing here had reportedly caused the Korean authorities in Seoul to decide to replace him as a covert political agent. Mr. Park, however, had some financial dealings with Mr. Kim and may be called as a witness in his trial.

More sworn testimony is to begin when the trial of former Representative Richard T. Hanna, Democrat of California, starts on March 20. Mr. Hanna has been charged with conspiracy, bribery and fraud and was portrayed in the indictment against him as a collaborator of Mr. Park.

Mr. Park, who has been promised immunity from criminal charges against him in return for his truthful testimony in court, will reportedly be a key witness against Mr. Hanna. He will appear in secret session before the Senate ethics committee next week for testimony similar to that he has given to the House ethics committee.

Later, probably in April, he will be called to testify publicly before the House committee. The committee, whose special counsel is Leon Jaworski, is also insisting that the Korean Government provide information from Kim Dong Jo, the former Ambassador who allegedly left a trail of cash donations across Capitol Hill, and from other Korean officials who knew which Americans took bribes and other illicit favors.